

The Specification has been objected to on grounds that there is no description of the lens panel being jewel cut, as required by Claim 2. However, Claim 2 has been canceled. Hence, the specification, as now presented, is believed to be proper and the Examiner is requested to withdraw this objection.

Claim 45 has been rejected as being unsupported by the specification. However, reconsideration is requested of this rejection. In making the rejection, the Examiner states "Claim 45 recites an explosive environment and the specification fails to provide any description on what an explosive environment is that the Claim is referring to." However, the specification, page 6, lines 19 - 21, states "when this is done, the light panels 12 and 14 and light cartridge 16 can be located safely under water or in an explosive atmosphere, since no electricity is required." It is respectfully submitted that this language is self-explanatory, such as a gas-filled room, and that it is unnecessary to specifically define the "explosive atmosphere". It should be no more necessary for Applicant to describe the "explosive environment", than for him to describe the "water". Furthermore, it is noted that the reference to Brosnan also refers to "hazardous, explosive or volatile environments" without further definition of the term. Therefore, the Examiner is requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection and to allow Claim 45.

Claim 46 has been rejected as being unsupported by the specification. However, reconsideration is requested of this rejection. In making the rejection, the Examiner states "Claim 46 recites the light distribution device as a device for regulating temperature, however, in the specification on page 8 describes the light distribution device as not generating any heat or electricity, but the Patent Office fails to see how this regulates the temperature of the surroundings." However, on page 8, lines 4 - 6, the specification states "Obviously, the light pipe could receive energy from solar collectors or the like,...". If this is done, the solar light would carry a strong infra red component which, could be filtered or passed by the light distribution device, to serve to regulate the temperature of the surrounding area. Accordingly, Claim 46 is believed to be properly supported by the specification and the Examiner is requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection and to allow Claim 46.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7 - 9, 11 - 12, 14, 17 - 19, 23, 27 - 28, 30 and 54 have been rejected as being anticipated by Davenport et al. However, reconsideration is requested of this rejection. Claim 1 requires a recess formed adjacent the base of the lens panel and a "light cartridge mounted within said recess in a manner to allow said panel to be assembled with said base in abutting relation with an adjacent surface." Davenport et al shows a lens panel having a plurality of light pipes connected to the base. However, this would preclude the base from being "assembled in abutting relation with an adjacent surface", as required by Claim 1. In making the rejection, the Examiner states that Davenport has "two recesses for accommodating a light guide member or light cartridge (24) adjacent to the base". However, this statement is believed to be on error. Davenport's "light guides 24" clearly correspond to the optical fibers 14 seen in his FIG. 1 - 4 and, in column 2, line 67, to column 3, line 5, Davenport states "The coupling between the ends of the fibers 14 and the wedge 14 may be made by **melting them together ...**". Thus, it is apparent that Davenport does NOT contemplate recesses or cartridges, as required by Applicant's Claim 1. As seen from Applicant's specification and drawings, it is intended that Applicant's lens panel be a modular element which can be assembled with other panels to form

numerous structures. Davenport et al cannot do this. Furthermore, Davenport does not teach connecting the light fibers to the wedge through a light cartridge, as required by Applicant. However, Applicant's light cartridge can contain filters or other light modifying means which permits many uses which would otherwise be impossible. Therefore, Claim 1 is believed to clearly and patentably distinguish over Davenport et al and the Examiner is requested to allow Claim 1.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 7 - 9, 11 - 12, 14, 17 - 19, 23, 27 - 28, 30 and 54 are dependent from Claim 1 and, hence, include all of the limitations of parent Claim 1. Therefore, Claims 2, 3, 5, 7 - 9, 11 - 12, 14, 17 - 19, 23, 27 - 28, 30 and 54 are each believed to be patentable over Davenport et al for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1 and the Examiner is requested to allow each of claims 2, 3, 5, 7 - 9, 11 - 12, 14, 17 - 19, 23, 27 - 28, 30 and 54.

It is noted that in the penultimate paragraph of page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that he is rejecting "Claims 1 - 3, 5, 7 - 9, 11 - 12, 14, 17 - 19, 23, 27 - 28, 30 54". However, in the next paragraph, the Examiner indicates that Claims 51 and 52 are also included in the rejection. Claims 51 and 52 are independent claims which each include the requirements for a recess and a light cartridge. Therefore, claims 51 and 52 are each believed to be patentable over Davenport for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1.

Claims 15 - 16, 22, 43 and 47 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Davenport et al in view of Baba. However, reconsideration is requested of this rejection. Claims 15 - 16, 22, 43 and 47 are each dependent from Claim 1 and, hence, include all of the limitations of parent Claim 1. Therefore, Claims 15 - 16, 22, 43 and 47 are each believed to be patentable over any combination of Davenport and Baba for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1 and the Examiner is requested to allow each of Claims 15 - 16, 22, 43 and 47.

Claim 4 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Davenport et al in view of Baliozian. However, reconsideration is requested of this rejection. Claim 4 is dependent from Claim 1 and, hence, include all of the limitations of parent Claim 1. Therefore, Claim 4 is believed to be patentable over any combination of Davenport and Baliozian for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1 and the Examiner is requested to allow Claim 4.

Claims 10 and 24 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Davenport et al in view of Reynolds. However, reconsideration is requested of this rejection. Claims 10 and 24 are each dependent from Claim 1 and, hence, include all of the limitations of parent Claim 1. Therefore, Claims 10 and 24 are each believed to be patentable over any combination of Davenport and Reynolds for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1 and the Examiner is requested to allow each of Claims 10 and 24.

Claim 44 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Davenport et al in view of Robbins. However, reconsideration is requested of this rejection. Claim 44 is dependent from Claim 1 and, hence, include all of the limitations of parent Claim 1. Therefore, Claim 44 is believed to be patentable over any combination of Davenport and Robbins for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1 and the Examiner is requested to allow Claim 44.

Claim 45 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Davenport et al in view of Brosnan. However, reconsideration is requested of this rejection. Claim 45 is dependent from Claim 1 and, hence, include all of the limitations of parent Claim 1. Therefore, Claim 45 is believed to be patentable over any combination of Davenport and Brosnan for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1 and the Examiner is requested to allow Claim 45.

Claim 53 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Davenport et al in view of Krent. However, reconsideration is requested of this rejection. Claim 53 is dependent from Claim 1 and, hence, include all of the limitations of parent Claim 1. Therefore, Claim 53 is believed to be patentable over any combination of Davenport and Krent for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1 and the Examiner is requested to allow Claim 53.

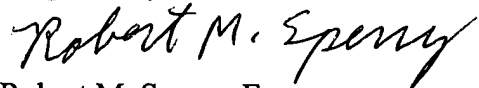
Claims 40 - 41 and 56 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Davenport et al in view of Sanford. However, reconsideration is requested of this rejection. Claims 40 - 41 and 56 are each dependent from Claim 1 and, hence, include all of the limitations of parent Claim 1. Therefore, Claims 40 - 41 and 56 are each believed to be patentable over any combination of Davenport and Sanford for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1 and the Examiner is requested to allow each of Claims 40 - 41 and 56.

Claims 37 - 39 and 58 - 59 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Davenport et al in view of Zelan. However, reconsideration is requested of this rejection. Claims 37 - 39 and 58 - 59 are each dependent from Claim 1 and, hence, include all of the limitations of parent Claim 1. Therefore, Claims 37 - 39 and 58 - 59 are each believed to be patentable over any combination of Davenport and Zelan for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1 and the Examiner is requested to allow each of Claims 37 - 39 and 58 - 59.

Claims 6, 13, 25 - 26, 31 - 36, 48 - 49, 55, 57 and 61 have been indicated to contain allowable subject matter, but have been rejected as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. However, Claim 1 is believed to be allowable for the reasons set forth above. Therefore, the Examiner is requested to allow each of Claims 6, 13, 25 - 26, 31 - 36, 48 - 49, 55, 57 and 61.

For the foregoing reasons, each of Claims 1 and 3 - 61, as now presented, is believed to be allowable and the Examiner is requested to allow each of Claims 1 and 3 - 61 and to pass the case to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert M. Sperry".

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